

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02326 171632Z

67

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 /019 W

----- 118230

R 171513Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9977

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2326

FOR EUR/SOV, CU/ARTS, CU/EE; FOR P&;; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJ: TELEVISION TAPING: ROY CLARK SHOW

REF: MOSCOW 1858

1. AT A RECEPTION FEBRUARY 13, MME. BUTROVA APOLOGISED TO THE P&C COUNSELOR FOR GOSKONTSERT'S BEHAVIOR IN ATTEMPTING TO "CHARGE" SOVIET STATE TV 5,000 RUBLES FOR THE RIGHTS TO FILM A PERFORMANCE OF THE RECENT ROY CLARK SHOW IN MOSCOW (REFTEL). ON BEING APPRISED OF THE MATTER, MME. BUTROVA SAID DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE POPOV HAD ORDERED HER TO DETERMINE THE FACTS, SCOLD GOSKONTSERT AND APOLOGIZE TO THE EMBASSY.

2. ACCORDING BUTROVA, GOSKONTSERT'S DIRECTOR SUPAGIN LAYS BLAME ON OVER-ZEALOUS NEW DEPUTY, IVAN YELISEEV, RECENTLY ARRIVED IN GOSKONTSERT WITH A REPUTATION AS A FINANCIAL EXPERT. GOSKONTSERT HAD SPENT A LOT OF MONEY ON ROY CLARK; YELISEEV SAW AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET SOME IT BACK FROM SOVIET STATE TV. WAS GOSKONTSERT CLAIMING THAT IT HAD LOST MONEY ON ROY CLARK, BUTROVA WAS ASKED? NO (WITH A SMILE), JUST THAT HIS SHOW WAS SO POPULAR THAT THERE SEEMED A CHANCE TO MAKE A LITTLE MORE ON IT.

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3. THOUGH BUTROVA'S APOLOGY WAS GRACIOUS, INDEED, SHE
OFFERED IT WELL INTO A CONVERSATION WITH P&C COUNSELOR
AND ONLY WHEN HE INQUIRED WHETHER EMBASSY'S NOTE OF

FEBRUARY 6 HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND WOULD THERE BE A REPLY.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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